

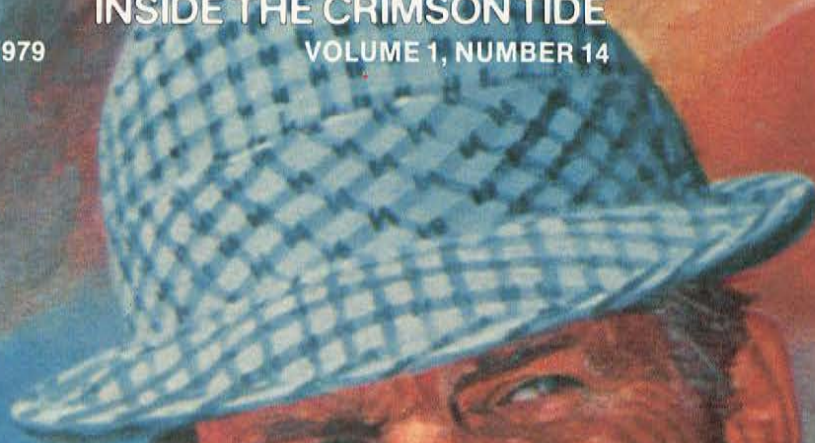
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INSIDE THE CRIMSON TIDE

DECEMBER 8, 1979

VOLUME 1, NUMBER 14



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For 315 Wins**

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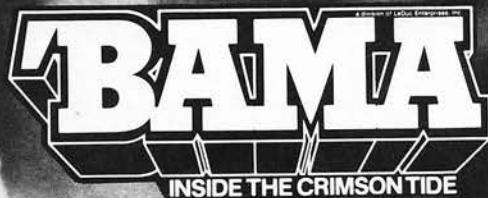
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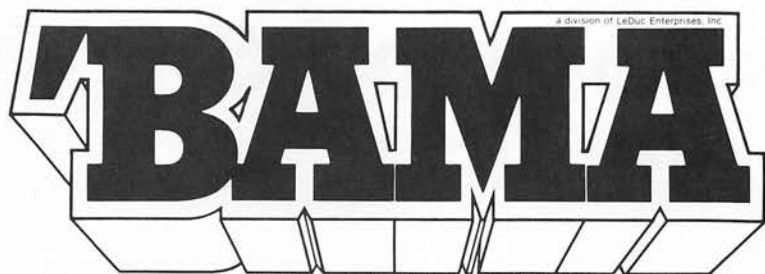
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INSIDE THE CRIMSON TIDE

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Spectrum-Southeast Photo

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Tide Needs To Hang On One More Time

by Kirk McNair

Seeing Johnny Sullivan in the Alabama dressing room following the Crimson Tide's 25-18 victory over Auburn Saturday couldn't help but bring back memories. Bama is trying desperately to hang on for its second straight national championship. Sullivan was a 191-pound defensive tackle-noseguard on the 1964, 1965 and 1966 Bama teams. The 1964 and 1965 teams won national titles while the 1966 squad may have been the best Alabama team ever but finished third behind the famous tying Notre Dame and Michigan State squads.

Sullivan, who is now an assistant principal at a Kentucky high school, also remembers. "The bowl games had worked both ways for us," he said. "In 1964 we were undefeated and were na-

tional champions in the final polls, which came out before the bowl games. We lost to Texas and the next year one of the polls (Associated Press) decided to wait until after the bowl games to choose. We beat Nebraska in the Orange Bowl and got the championship again. It was the first time that a team had ever won back-to-back championships. We were ranked number one before the 1966 season, but dropped down to third or fourth early. We kept winning and when Notre Dame and Michigan State tied we felt we should have been number one. That year the polls went before the bowl games again and when they put us third we felt like a brick had been dropped on our heads. After we beat Nebraska in the Sugar Bowl we knew we were the number one team."

Alabama is again in the position of worrying about a team that has tied, as well as a team that has a perfect record. Undoubtedly much will be made of the fact that the Rose Bowl has the two highest ranked teams meeting and many will consider that the most likely candidate for a national championship game, Southern Cal against Ohio State. In 1966 neither Notre Dame (by school policy) nor Michigan State (by Big Ten no repeat policy) went to a bowl.

Bama has now won 20 games in a row, the nation's longest winning streak, and it also ties the school record, set under coach Wallace Wade 1924-26. The seventh consecutive victory over Auburn is also the Tide's on-going record 23rd straight Southeastern Conference win.

Alabama also won its 17th SEC championship, 14th outright. It was the Tide's eighth league title in the last nine years.

It marked the 14th time in modern history that Alabama has gone through regular season unbeaten and untied, the seventh time under coach Bryant. It was Alabama's ninth team to win 11 games, including the seventh in this decade. The team now has a chance to win 12 games, which would be a first for Alabama; win a sixth national championship; win a fifth straight bowl game; and become the seventh Tide team to go unbeaten and untied through regular season and bowl games.

Alabama's first team to win a national championship and 11 games was the 1961 team. When you hear talk of a program being turned around, consider that coach Bryant's first group of seniors went 10-0 in regular season, giving up only 22 points, then as national champions



Left, Alabama fullback Steve Whitman looks for running room while Tide offensive lineman Mike Brock looks for an Auburn defender to knock down. Whitman led all rushers with 107 yards as the Tide knocked off the Tigers again. Right, the official agrees with a Bama cheerleader and fan that Steadman Shealy was in the end zone with this second quarter touchdown before he was tackled.

Spectrum-Southeast Photos





downed Arkansas in the Sugar Bowl, 10-3.

This year the Tide again meets Arkansas in the Sugar Bowl, only the second meeting for the two teams in history. Alabama has a lot to thank Arkansas for, particularly Moro Bottom's most famous native, one Paul William Bryant, but no one in the Crimson Tide camp wants to repay any favors on January 1 in the Louisiana Superdome.

Arkansas head coach Lou Holtz, whose team was thrust into the Sugar Bowl and out of the Cotton Bowl when Texas lost to Texas A&M Saturday, said that his team is not good enough to play Alabama, which may be the quickest coaching play in NCAA history. "We might be the worst 10-1 team in the country," said Holtz. Southwest Conference sources may not agree with that, but they do feel that Texas is a stronger team than Arkansas, particularly defensively, and that Bama got a break when the crippled Longhorns lost to A&M to send the Razorbacks to New Orleans.

Auburn has never been a factor in a Rose Bowl game before, but the game the Tigers played against Alabama Saturday may have helped the Pasadena classic in its bid to become the national title game. Auburn, it was agreed by Tide players, was the best team to line up against Bama this year.

There's a tendency to think that Alabama did not play well because of the closeness of the score (and more than that a couple of close shaves that could have turned the narrow win into a loss) and because of the four lost Alabama fumbles. However, Auburn played well, particularly defensively. And the Tigers, though inconsistent, had some big pass plays.

Perhaps surprisingly, the game's top two rushers were not the deservedly heralded James Brooks and Joe Cribbs of Auburn, but Steve Whitman and Steadman Shealy of Alabama. Whitman had his biggest day ever, rushing for 107 yards on 14 carries, including a 20-yard burst to the Auburn eight to set up the winning touchdown. Shealy had 99 yards on 24 carries, including two touchdowns. His second TD was the winning score and he followed it with a successful run for a two-point conversion, which meant that had Auburn scored again the Tigers would

Above Major Ogilvie makes a quick cut to avoid an onrushing Auburn defender in Bama's 25-18 victory over the Tigers Saturday. Below, strong safety Tommy Wilcox (15) moves in to help if needed, but Tide linebacker Randy Scott has things well in hand.

Spectrum-Southeast Photos

have had to go for two points to win the game. Auburn had failed on two previous two-point conversion attempts.

Whitman, predictably and correctly, gave much of the credit for his success to the blocking by the Alabama line. Bama went mostly to the left side where Buddy Aydelette and Mike Brock were blocking and where Auburn's outstanding Frank Warren was not. However, Whitman's two longest runs, including the crucial 20-yarder late in the fourth quarter, went over Vince Boothe and Jim Bunch on the right side. "A couple of times I went 10 yards before anyone touched me," said Whitman. Whitman had been singled out by Auburn partisans for his remark following the Miami game that "if we don't beat Auburn I wouldn't want to go to a bowl; in fact, I wouldn't want my face seen." Saturday he explained that it was not a slur on Auburn. "I'd have said the same about any team we were playing," he said. "I think we ought to be ashamed if we don't win."

In addition to his running, Shealy also had a fine day passing, hitting five of six passes for 64 yards and one touchdown. As it so often seems, Alabama appeared to have the pass whenever it wanted it,

but chose not to take it. Keith Pugh, who caught five passes (his first ever receptions against Auburn) for 76 yards and Alabama's first touchdown, said "we had one-on-one coverage almost all day. I was surprised we didn't throw more, but as a wide receiver you'd expect me to feel that way." Keith was involved in an important play on Bama's winning touchdown drive. On second and eight from midfield, Shealy hit Pugh on a nine-yard gain. Auburn was then penalized an additional 15 yards for a personal foul when the Auburn defensive back barely made contact with Pugh out of bounds, the type of contact that is almost never considered a late hit. "It was Darryl Wilks," said Keith. "I know him and he would never do anything cheap. It wasn't anything violent. I didn't even know they had called it until I started back for the huddle."

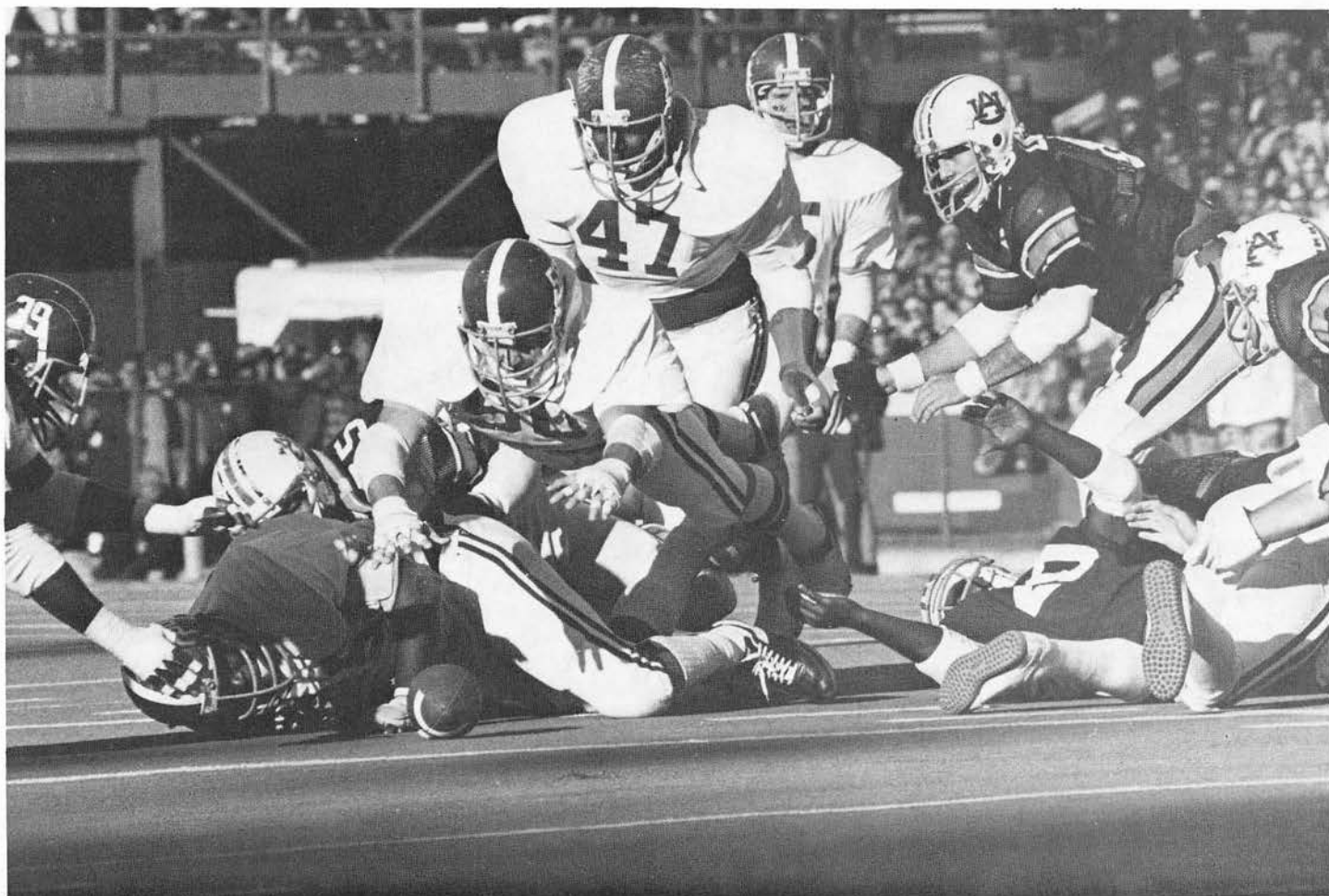
Bama's first touchdown, a 28-yard Shealy to Pugh pass, was really not designed to score. "I just made a quick out to the sideline," said Keith. "The defender came up to make the tackle, which is about the only thing he can do on that play, but he missed me and I had it wide open down the sidelines."

While Alabama won the national

defense against scoring title allowing only 58 points this year, the Tide gave up the most it has given up to Auburn. "They kept coming," said Bama defensive end Wayne Hamilton. "You have to give them credit. It looked like we had control of the game and they never gave up, which showed a lot of class. There's just so much you can plan against them. Brooks and Cribbs are as fine runners as you'll ever see. We just had to play sound, fundamental defense. I think we handled the pressure of being behind well. We didn't panic when they had momentum. I'm sure that a reason for that is that we have been in pressure games so many times over the years. We kept our poise, kept our heads up and kept going. The offense did it when it had to."

Both teams had good breaks and bad breaks, some of which were taken advantage of and some of which were not. Former Alabama defensive back Phil Allman probably summed it up best when he said "Alabama was lucky to win, but Auburn was lucky it was as close as it was."

The Tide got the first break when Tim Clark's popup kickoff was fumbled by Brooks and recovered by Randy Scott at



Alabama did plenty of fumbling against Auburn Saturday, but linebacker Randy Scott caused this fumble by the Tigers. The ball was recovered by Bama's E.J. Junior and led to an Alabama field goal.

ALABAMA DEPTH CHART VS. AUBURN

Alabama used a total of 52 of the 60 men who dressed against Auburn, 24 seeing action on offense, 16 on defense and 12 with the specialty units. The Tide played 11 freshmen, including five true freshmen. Starters are listed first and no one is listed at more than one position, although a few played more than one spot.

OFFENSE

Split End: Keith Pugh, Keith Marks
 Left Tackle: Buddy Aydelette, Eddie McCombs
 Left Guard: Mike Brock, Scott Allison
 Center: Dwight Stephenson, Steve Mott
 Right Guard: Vince Boothe, Joe Robbins
 Right Tackle: Jim Bunch, Wiley Barnes
 Tight End: Tim Travis, Bart Krout
 Quarterback: Steadman Shealy, Don Jacobs, Alan Gray
 Left Halfback: Billy Jackson, Joe Jones, James Haney
 Right Halfback: Major Ogilvie, Mark Nix
 Fullback: Steve Whitman, Mitch Ferguson

DEFENSE

Left End: Wayne Hamilton, Gary DeNiro
 Left Tackle: Byron Braggs
 Noseguard: Curtis McGriff, Warren Lyles
 Right Tackle: David Hannah, Scott Homan
 Right End: E. J. Junior
 Strongside Linebacker: Randy Scott
 Weakside Linebacker: Thomas Boyd, Robbie Jones
 Left Halfback: Don McNeal, Jeremiah Castille
 Right Halfback: Mike Clements
 Strong Safety: Tommy Wilcox
 Safety: Jim Bob Harris

SPECIALTY TEAMS

Punter: Woody Umphrey
 Placekicker: Tim Clark, Alan McElroy
 Snapper: Barry Smith

Returns and Coverage: Buddy Holt, Kenny Simon, Larry Brown, Gary Bramblett, John Hill, Jeff Fagan, John Mauro, Mike Pitts

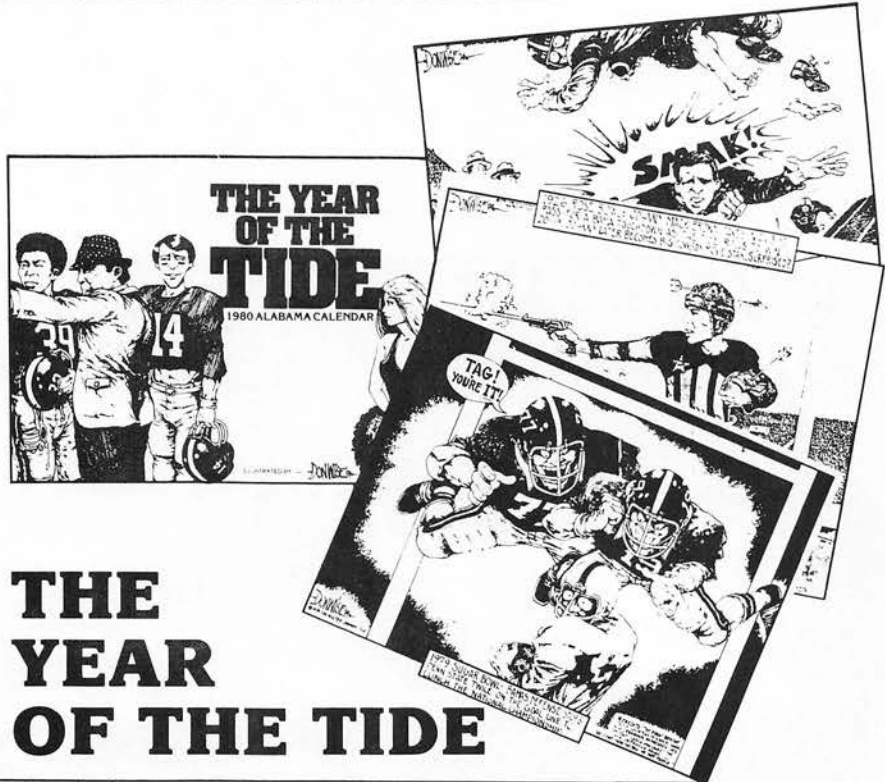
Auburn's 23. Four plays later the Tide was punting from its 31 and Auburn had the ball back at its 20. Later in the quarter Alabama drove it inside the Auburn 10, but a fumbled pitchout resulted in a field goal attempt, which was missed.

Auburn scored first on a 47-yard field goal by Jorge Portela. The Tigers had driven to the Alabama 12 with the help of a penalty, but never threatened for a touchdown.

Alabama's Don Jacobs made his first appearance since being injured against Mississippi State, but the junior quarterback was reinjured on his fourth play and must be considered doubtful for the Sugar Bowl. The drive he started ended with Shealy's touchdown pass to Pugh. The Tide made it 14-3 when Shealy went one yard for a score late in the second period, capping a 65-yard drive that was helped along by a roughness penalty against Auburn, giving Bama the ball at Auburn's 15.

By far the most opportunities came in the third quarter. Auburn recovered four Alabama fumbles—two inside the Tide 30 and one inside the 40—but made only one first down (on a touchdown screen pass) and only nine points. Bama also got an Auburn fumble in the third period and converted it to three points.

Auburn had to waste one of its three timeouts of the second half when the Tigers didn't have a two-point play ready to go after Auburn had taken the lead early in the fourth quarter. The Tigers had to use another timeout later in the quarter when they had the wrong players in on a short yardage situation. That left the Tigers only one timeout in the crucial final minutes of the game as Bama ran off the clock.



THE YEAR OF THE TIDE

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Alabama had bad luck on Thursday when Tide defensive back Ricky Tucker was injured in a freak practice mishap. Working in shorts, Tucker and another Tider banged together, injuring Ricky's ankle.

A surprising aspect of the pre-game hoopla was Auburn's taking offense at something coach Bryant said following the Miami game, that "if we don't beat Auburn I'd just as soon stay home and plow as go to a bowl." Somehow the Auburn supporters took the word "plow" as a reference to the fact that Auburn is the state's agriculture school. That brought up 1972, when coach Bryant referred to Auburn as a "cow college." Auburn went on to a big upset of Bama that year, the last win this series for the Tigers. While coach Bryant had not intended the post-Miami remark to reflect on Auburn, when it became a mini-issue he fanned the flames. He said it was probably true, as Auburn coach Barfield said early in the week, that Alabama people looked down their noses at Auburn people; that he had called Auburn a cow college in 1972, and he thought it was; and that if Auburn lost they had some people who knew something about plowing. When he walked in front of the Auburn student section prior to the game he was greeted with cries of "Plow, Bear, Plow." He responded by pretending to plow from the 10-yard line to the goalline. The students cheered.★

ALABAMA STATISTICS VS. AUBURN

RUSHING	Att.	Gain	Lost	Net	TD	Long
Whitman	14	107	0	107	0	20
Shealy	24	128	29	99	2	27
Ogilvie	16	70	5	65	0	19
Jacobs	2	10	0	10	0	8
J. Jones	2	10	0	10	0	7
Ferguson	3	10	0	10	0	6
Jackson	3	9	0	9	0	3
Nix	1	5	0	5	0	5
Haney	1	3	0	3	0	3
Gray	1	0	4	-4	0	-4
BAMA TOTALS	67	352	38	314	2	27
AUBURN TOTALS	44	161	33	128	0	35

SCORE BY QUARTERS: 1st 2nd 3rd 4th -- Final

Alabama	0	14	3	8	--	25
Auburn	3	0	9	6	--	18

SCORING:

Aub -- Portela, 47 field goal
 Ala -- Pugh, 28 Shealy pass (McElroy kick)
 Ala -- Shealy, 1 rush (McElroy kick)
 Aub -- Portela, 39 field goal
 Ala -- McElroy, 23 field goal
 Aub -- Cribbs, 36 Trotman pass (pass fail)
 Aub -- Robbins, 11 Trotman pass (rush fail)
 Ala -- Shealy, 8 rush (Shealy rush)

TEAM STATISTICS

	BAMA	AUB
First Downs	24	11
Rushing	17	5
Passing	5	4
Penalty	2	2
Total Offensive Plays	75	62
Total Net Yards	394	249
Average Gain Per Play	5.25	4.02
Fumbles-Lost	5-4	5-2
Penalties-Yards	4-27	5-65
Time Of Possession	35:24	24:36
Third Down Conversions	4-11	8-18

PASSING	Att-Comp-Int	Yards	TD	Long
Shealy	6- 5 - 0	64	1	28
Jacobs	1- 1 - 0	16	0	16
Nix	1- 0 - 0	0	0	0
BAMA TOTALS	8- 6 - 0	80	1	28
AUBURN TOTALS	18- 5 - 0	121	2	55

RECEIVING

Pugh	5	76	1	28
Ogilvie	1	4	0	4

ALL RETURNS

Punts No. Yds.	Kickoffs No. Yds.	Int'c'ns No. Yds.
Wilcox 1 5		
McNeal	4 65	
AUBURN TOTALS	1 9	3 82 0 0

PUNTING

Umphrey	5	149	29.8	32
AUBURN TOTALS	5	190	38.0	42

DEFENSE

Tackles	Assists	For Loss-Yards
Boyd 12	3	
Scott 3	3	1-5
Hannah 3	3	1-2
Junior 4	1	4-15
McNeal 4	1	
Clements 3	1	1-1
Harris 3	1	
Lyles 3	1	
Wilcox 2	2	
Hamilton 2	2	
Jones 3		
Braggs 2	1	
DeNiro 2		
McGriff 1	1	
Simon 1		
Haney 1		

FUMBLE RECOVERY: Scott 1 Junior 1

COACH BRYANT ON BAMA



"I think it was a real tough game. I've seen better games, but not many that had as much hard-hitting. The statistics might not be too impressive, but the licks passed were impressive by both sides.

"Coach Barfield and his staff had a great plan and Auburn has some great players. I think our team was fired up and ready to play and our assistant coaches did an outstanding job, all of them.

"I was proud of the way we came from behind twice. We had some big, big plays. We stopped them when we had to and we had the 82-yard drive when we had to have it.

"Even though Auburn scored a lot of points, our defense played spectacularly. And the offense played well enough to win. Everyone contributed, even the ones who stayed home after helping us get ready. I think everyone on our team played as hard as he could and that is what is important. This team has more class on and off the field than any you can imagine. Even a loss in the Sugar Bowl

wouldn't change my thoughts on that. That winning touchdown drive was enough to convince me of that. It was one of the finest I've ever seen. Steadman Shealy was at the throttle, but there were 10 others who had a lot to do with it. We have a truly outstanding offensive line.

"That was on of the greatest wins we've had and we needed it badly to keep those strings alive and to keep our hand in the championship.

"I like to think that the fourth quarter is ours and I think it was Saturday.

"I think the students handled themselves better than usual at an Auburn game. It makes a big difference when they are quiet enough to hear the audibles.

"We've had more injuries this season than I can ever remember. I'm not crying; that's just how it is.

"I'm just thrilled to death with the win. We've got some mighty good plow hands."

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For Hall Of Fame

New Portrait Commemorates Coach Bryant's Run for 315

by Kirk McNair

A new portrait was unveiled last week which commemorates coach Bryant's quest of the record for all-time college football victories.

The portrait, by the outstanding artist Chris Magadini of Syracuse, New York will be presented to the College Football Hall of Fame in Kings Island, Ohio next August during the annual meeting of the Football Writers Association of America.

Magadini has a career in art that saw him teaching and doing free lance painting in Arizona for eight years and working in Sweden for a year before settling in New York. Among his sports illustrations is a portrait of Joe Paterno, commissioned by Penn State University.

This new portrait was commissioned by LeDue Enterprises, Inc., parent company of 'BAMA Magazine. By special arrangement a limited edition print of the portrait will be made available, the first offering to 'BAMA subscribers. Should any prints remain following the presentation of the original to the College Football Hall of Fame, they will be made available to the general public.

Famed prints are \$75. Make checks payable to 'BAMA Magazine Collection and mail to P.O. Box 6104, University, Alabama 35486.

Because the original will be showcased in the College Football Hall of Fame there is little doubt that the prints will be collector's items. As coach Bryant breaks the all-time record of 314 head coaching college victories and when his final victory total is in, the prints will certainly become more cherished.

Coach Bryant first saw the painting last week at a special ceremony. Thomas R. LeDuc, president of LeDuc Enterprises, unveiled the portrait.

Coach Bryant has moved within 20 vic-

tories of the record in his 35 year career. At his current winning rate of over 10 games per year (since converting to the wishbone offense in 1971), he could be expected to become the all-time winner in late 1981 or early 1982.

The earliest it could possibly happen would be October 24, 1981, against Rutgers at the Meadowlands just outside New York City. If that should happen—an outside chance—it would mean that the record was set against the team that played in college football's first game ever, the Rutgers-Princeton contest of 1869. If the Tide wins at the pace it has won over the past eight years the game for win number 315 would come against in-state rival Auburn.

Whatever the pace, the countdown time has arrived. Every game becomes more important, and it is probable that the importance of coach Bryant's personal record will overshadow the actual game. Such was the situation when he and Woody Hayes—at the time the two winningest active coaches—met in the 1978 Sugar Bowl game.

The current record of 314 was set by Amos Alonzo Stagg, who coached a total of 57 years to achieve his win total, and was recognized as truly one of the great coaches. Not only did he win a lot of games, but he was innovative and despite his age considered a great football mind.

Stagg started coaching in 1890 at Springfield College, moved to Chicago University in 1892, then to the University of Pacific in 1933. His overall record was 314-197-35 for a winning percentage of .607. He averaged 5.5 wins per season.

Right behind Stagg is Glen (Pop) Warner with 313 wins over 44 years, a 7.1 average per season.

Coach Bryant's 35-year record is phenomenal. His 295-77-16 record is a winning percentage of .781. He averages 8.4 victories per season. At Alabama his record is 204-38-8, a winning percentage of .832 and an average of 9.3 wins per season.

This year he became the first coach in

college football's modern history to win 100 games in a decade.

Coach Bryant is the most recognized man in his profession, one of the few of whom it may be said he is a legend in his own time. Virtually every honor that can come to a man in his profession has. He has been National Coach of the Year a record three times, the SEC's top coach six times, the SEC Coach of the Century and the NCAA's Coach of the Decade for the 1960s (an honor which he is favored to regain for the 1970s). His Alabama teams have won five national championships, 12 Southeastern Conference championships and gone to 20 consecutive bowl games.

He was head coach at Maryland, Kentucky and Texas A&M before taking over his Alma Mater's program, which was in shambles, in 1958. If he fulfills his intention of continuing to coach "until we start losing," he will have been a head coach in five decades, the 1940s into the 1980s.

When coach Bryant announced his intention of going after the all-time record for college football victories (with his expected disclaimer that "I didn't win those games; a lot of people did. The players, coaches, mommas and poppas. . ."), former Arkansas head coaching great Frank Broyles had this to say:

"I think it is paramount to the future of college football that coach Bryant set the record.

"His doing it would be a tremendous boost to the sport. He is the only one who can ever do it because of his tremendous dedication to and love for the game.

"Then I'll say this: after he sets the new record, his will never be broken.

"Bear Bryant is unselfish. That's why he continues to coach and become an even larger legend than he already is. He has been more willing to give of himself and his talents than maybe the rest of us.

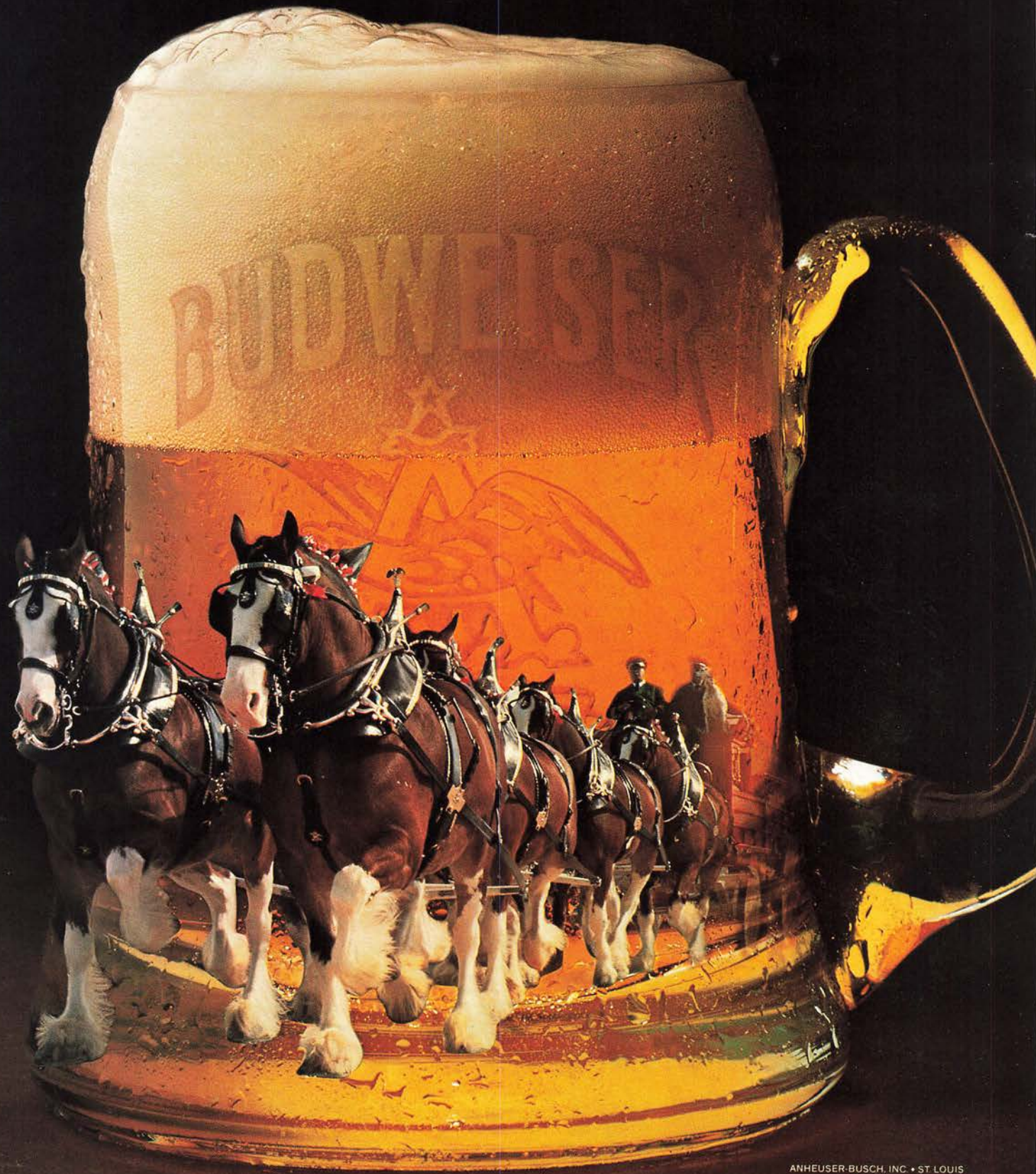
"The man was made to coach. He loves young people, loves working with them and helping them become fine young men and leaders.

"They just don't make men like Bear Bryant anymore."

Coach Bryant examines portrait which commemorates his quest for the all-time record of head coaching victories in college football.

Spectrum-Southeast Photo

*For all you do,
the King of Beers.[®]
is coming through.*



While coach Bryant seems to pass milestones with a frequency that makes them seem more like 10-yard stripes, there is no question that his earning the winningest record in college football history will be the crowning achievement. The portrait is designed to give recognition both to coach Bryant and to the man who has held the record for so many years, coach Stagg.

One of the most remarkable things about the three current leaders is their longevity. Coach Bryant, perhaps, has kept going in a more pressure-packed situation than coach Stagg or coach Warner, since college football is greatly in the public eye today. A former assistant coach, who now serves as a head coach, says of coach Bryant by way of explanation:

"It's his life. He was born to be a great coach. He is a great leader of men, a tremendous motivator, will accept nothing short of 100 percent effort from the superstar to the last player of the squad. He leads by example. As one of his coaches I always felt I had let him down if I hadn't done everything I could possibly do to get ready for a game, even if it meant working twenty hours a day. He didn't demand it; you just felt that way on the inside. And he has a great football mind."

Coach Bryant insists that he is not a great football coach, but admits to an ability to "coach people." There's no question that he's a great motivator; and greatly motivated.

Unquestionably he would have been successful at anything he had tried. Alabama is indeed fortunate that his success has been with the Crimson Tide.

This portrait is a tribute to him and a recognition of that success. ★



Thomas R. LeDuc, president of LeDuc Enterprises, Inc., parent company of BAMA Magazine, commissioned the portrait of coach Bryant, which will hang in the College Football Hall of Fame.

Spectrum-Southeast Photo

CRIMSON GALLERY

Protective Force

Almost everyone is aware of the split second timing that is involved in a successful football play. This is particularly true of the crucial elements of the kicking game.

The snap, the hold, the steps, the kick must all be made in a prescribed manner and within a critical time frame.

But if all of those segments of the kicking game are perfect and the protection breaks down, it may all be for nothing—or worse.

It is of the utmost importance that those men not directly involved in the kicking procedures perform the dual role of protection, followed by attack.

Here the Crimson Tide kicking team front men hold out the potential kick blockers. If the kick try is a long one, punt or field goal, the Tiders must hold their blocks for the prescribed time and then get into their lanes of coverage to guard against a runback.





Bowl Tradition

The Crimson Tide's 12-Game Schedule

by Al Browning

Those who noticed thought coach Paul "Bear" Bryant had made a slip of the tongue when making pre-season observations about his 1971 University of Alabama football team.

"We're playing a great football team," Bryant said a week before the Crimson Tide was to open its regular season against Southern California at Los Angeles. "It's a big game for us, the first of 12 big ones we will play this year."

Knowing Alabama had only 11 scheduled games, a few sports writers in attendance chuckled.

"That's right," Bryant said, "I said 12 games. Alabama teams play 12 games every season."

The man has a point.

Not only is Alabama the most frequent visitor to post-season bowl games in the nation—32 appearances since 1926—the Crimson Tide has established a remarkable string of 20 in a row—dating to 1959, the second season for Bryant as coach at his alma mater.

"Bowls are a part of our tradition at Alabama and they are certainly good for our program," Bryant says with more than a simple hint of pride. "They give the school great exposure, they help in recruiting and they bring in money. We paid for our stadium (Bryant-Denny) with bowl money and we have built many buildings on the Alabama campus with money we received for our bowl appearances."

"The players love to play in bowls and the university people favor them, so I am all for them, too."

Bryant is an authority on bowl games, having participated in 28—26 as a head coach, one as an Alabama player and one as an assistant coach. He is considered a bowl magacian in national circles, with many fellow coaches and media members inclined to believe major matchups are made only through his good graces.

Perhaps that once was the case—"I used to telephone coaching friends and make a deal or two with them," Bryant said—but not now, not in this era of bowl contracts with various conferences.

"If we don't beat Auburn, I'd just as soon stay home and plow," Bryant said as the present situation became a reality. "From a personal standpoint, I would rather stay at home during the holiday season and eat turkey."

"I've always said a bowl invitation should be a reward for the players. If they earn an invitation, I'm sure not gonna stay home and keep them from playing. And we've had our share of teams which have earned the chance to represent our school in bowl games."

"We've also had a couple of teams which were not bowl-caliber, yet received invitations. That's where the tradition comes in. Tradition probably got us invitations those years."

"I'm not sure Alabama has the greatest bowl tradition in the country, because I don't know anything about the other schools. But I know we have a tradition we can be extremely proud of."

Alabama football got into the bowl business when 22 Crimson Tide players traveled west to defeat Washington 20-19 in the Rose Bowl. Since, the bowl list has grown—a 16-13-3 record in nine Sugar Bowls, seven Orange Bowls, six Rose Bowls, four Cotton Bowls, three Liberty Bowls, two Bluebonnet Bowls and one Gator Bowl—and stories have become plentiful.

For the sake of building a grand tradition, national championships have been won and lost, faces have been bloodied, movie stars have been born and, above all, Alabama football has gained national respect.

The memories are sweet for anybody who travels down Alabama's Bowl Boulevard . . .

When Alabama accepted its first bowl invitation to challenge powerful Washington in the 1926 Rose Bowl, it assumed responsibility for destroying the cloak of inferiority that draped Southern football. Bettors placed unbelievable odds on the game—"Washington was favored by 50 points in some quarters," said Luny Smith, an Alabama manager on that historic trip.

As Alabama Coach Wallace Wade said,

"We were the South's baby."

After the gallant Crimson Tide had beaten Washington, Alabama was the nation's darling.

Dr. George Denny, the university president, became a prophet through his remarks as the Alabama team embarked on its six-day train trip to Pasadena.

"Win, lose or tie, this trip means more widespread and sustained publicity for Alabama than any recent event in the history of the state," Denny said as the Crimson Tide received a rousing sendoff.

For fabled Alabama running back Johnny Mack Brown, the game meant more. He impressed Hollywood talent scouts on the trip and became a movie star as a cowboy.

Alabama built on its bowl tradition by making four more trips to the Rose Bowl, 1927, 1931, 1935 and 1938, then carried its banner to the 1942 Cotton Bowl.

It was in Dallas that January 1 the Crimson Tide scored a 29-21 victory over Texas A&M, but found little reason to celebrate. World War II was being fought and the unrest was taking a toll on the mind of Alabama player and captain Holt Rast.

"The Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor came only a few days after we accepted the invitation to play Texas A&M," Rast said. "It distracted from the game. The whole mood of the country was downcast."

The Alabama victory over Texas A&M remains one of the most bizarre in bowl history. The Crimson Tide made only one first down and 75 yards total offense. But Alabama intercepted seven passes and recovered five fumbles to build a 29-7 lead entering the fourth quarter.

"They fumbled around and we fell on the ball," Rast said.

The Cotton Bowl tried its best to brighten the somber mood of war-worried Alabama players. The team train was stopped about 30 miles outside Dallas for a mock holdup.

Texas marveled at the sight of Alabama quarterback Roy Johnson, especially when the 5-foot-2, 135-pound player put on a 10-gallon cowboy hat.

Alabama has also made Cotton Bowl appearances in 1954, 1968 and 1973. The 1954 game provided one of the memorable events in football history, an off-the-bench tackle by Crimson Tide halfback Tommy Lewis.

Lewis ran from the bench to tackle Rice running back Dicky Moegle, who was possibly en route to a touchdown. Rice was awarded a touchdown on the play, which helped it to a 28-6 victory.

"I still don't know why I did it," Lewis said. "It was my last game for Alabama. I don't guess I could relish the thought of losing."

Its national stature growing to giant proportions, Alabama took its bold tradition to the Orange Bowl in 1943 for a 37-21 victory over Boston College. The conquest, which pushed the Crimson Tide bowl record to 5-1-1, came the hard way, Alabama rolling back from a 14-9 deficit.

Alabama got 22 second-quarter points after words of encouragement from captain Joe Domnanovich, who took his teammates to task during a timeout.

"Don't give up," Domnanovich said as players listened to the All-America center from South Bend, Indiana. "We haven't had a chance to go with the ball yet. We're going to receive this kickoff and we're going to run them into the ground."

Alabama did just that, as it did in the 1953 Orange Bowl, when it beat Syracuse 61-6. Believe it or not, the Crimson Tide trailed that day, too, 6-0.

"The next Lambert Trophy winner the East sends to the Orange Bowl may have to pay its way in," Don Cuddy wrote in the Washington Daily News after the debacle with Syracuse. "Syracuse came a long way to be shown the pride of the East is not in the same class with the fourth or fifth best club in Dixie."

Alabama has the distinction of losing two national championships and winning one in the Orange Bowl. The 1965 Crimson Tide beat Nebraska 39-28 to win the title, but unbeaten Alabama teams lost to Nebraska 38-6 in 1972 and 13-11 to Notre Dame in 1975 to see title hopes vanish. Another Alabama national championship team lost to Texas 21-17 in a controversial 1966 Orange Bowl.

"The Nebraska team that ate us alive in 1972 might be the best college team ever assembled," Bryant said.

New Orleans and its fabled French Quarter have seen few parties to match the one the 1944 Alabama team pitched after the 1945 Sugar Bowl. It is still hard to believe the Crimson Tide "War Babies"

raised so much sin after losing 29-26 to Duke.

"The party started at Antoine's Restaurant and ended at the St. Charles Hotel just before daylight," said Harry Gilmer, the leaping and passing Alabama All-American who led the youthful Crimson Tide to a near victory. "Like the game, the party was the greatest I've ever been a part of."

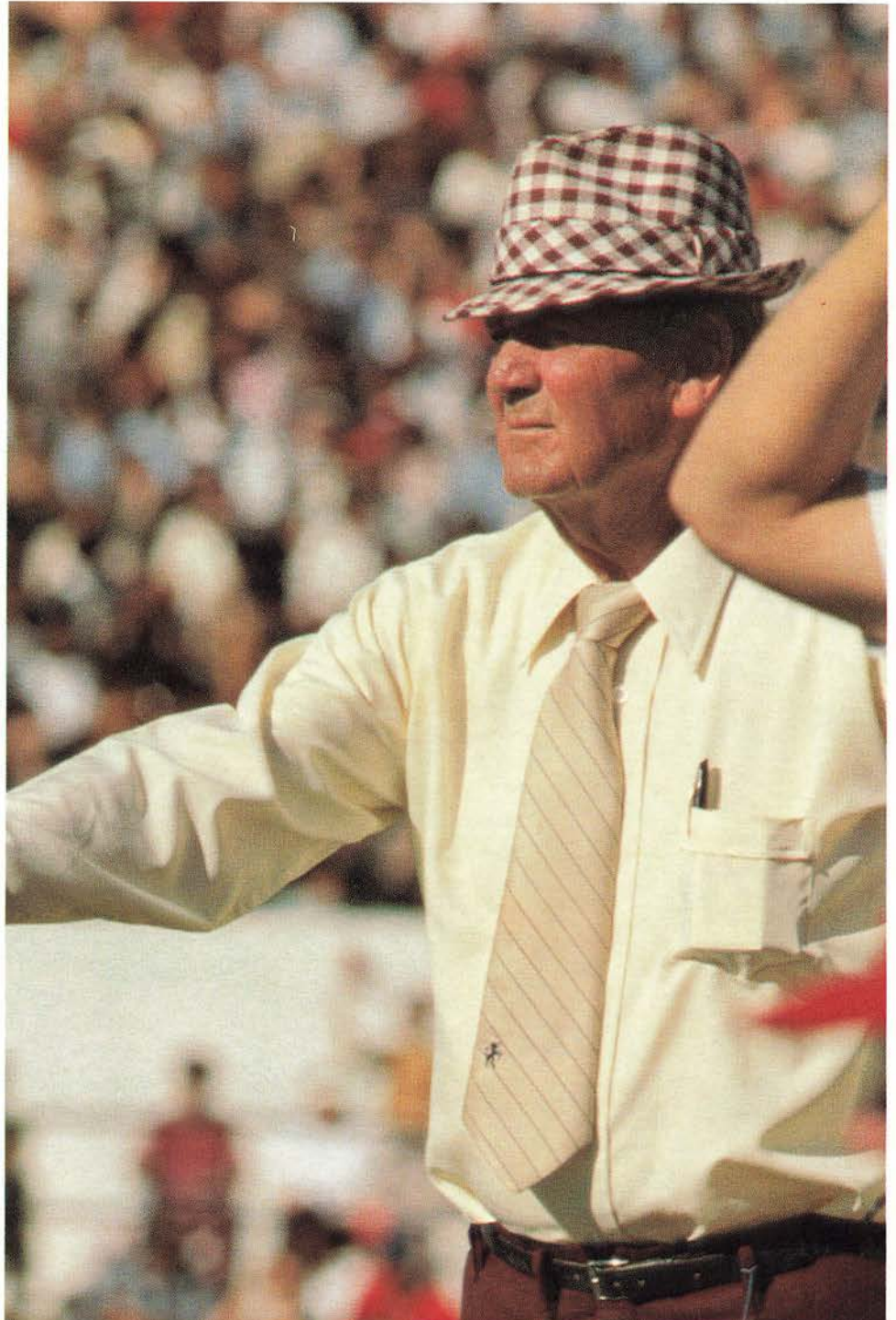
The Alabama "War Babies" team was made up mostly of freshman and men not physically suited for military service. Duke, on the other hand, had players who had been Navy trainees. Therefore, the

Crimson Tide was labeled a three-touchdown underdog.

But eight touchdowns and a safety later, 72,000 fans were cheering a gallant effort by Alabama and its 18-year-old passing whiz.

"For the past 10 years after each Sugar Bowl classic, I've written this sentence: 'This is the greatest of all Sugar Bowl games,'" said Fred Digby of the New Orleans States-Item newspaper. "But there will never be another one like this."

Alabama has played in several great Sugar Bowl games since, including the last one. The Crimson Tide, ranked No. 2,



The most famous name in bowls is Paul "Bear" Bryant, who has taken his Crimson Tide teams to a record 20 consecutive post season games prior to this season.

Joel Barnes Photo

beat Penn State, ranked No. 1, 14-7 to earn a national championship. The way Alabama stopped Penn State on two plays 10 inches from the goal line will always be remembered as a great moment in bowl history. But a 24-23 Alabama loss to Notre Dame in a similar showdown for the national championship in 1973 might qualify as the most dramatic bowl game of all-time.

"We lost, but I have to believe that game with Notre Dame was played the way college football is supposed to be played," Bryant said.

Major bowls have not hosted all of the thrilling post-season moments Alabama has had through the years.

In 1959, Bryant sent Alabama bowling for the first time in five years, taking his second Crimson Tide team to Philadelphia to play Penn State in the Liberty Bowl. Penn State won 7-0, but Alabama did finish the game, which surprised Bryant.

"It was snowing and miserably cold, so our players gathered around a pot-bellied stove in the dressing room at halftime," Bryant said. "There weren't many players acting like they wanted to play the second half, so I asked for volunteers. I think we started the second half with volunteers on the field.

"I know how our players felt, because I was freezing to death, too."

Bryant on other Alabama bowl games under his direction:

A 3-3 tie with Texas in the 1960 Bluebonnet Bowl: "We had a little scrawny bunch who played hard. We liked quick players and in those days quick ones came in small packages."

A 10-7 victory over Arkansas in the 1962 Sugar Bowl: "In 1961, we had the best team in college football. We had 16 or 17 players and all of them were leaders."

A 17-0 victory over Oklahoma in the 1963 Orange Bowl: "President John Kennedy was at the game, which thrilled us. But he went to the Oklahoma dressing room before the game and bypassed us. I think that fired up our players."

A 12-7 victory over Ole Miss in the 1964 Sugar Bowl: "That was one of the greatest football victories that has ever been won."

A 20-16 loss to Texas A&M in the 1968 Cotton Bowl: "I had no idea they were going to beat us. We had the best football team, but (Gene Bebes) Stallings did a better job of coaching than I did."

A 35-10 loss to Missouri in the 1968 Gator Bowl: "They beat us in every way

known to man, out-everythinged us."

A 17-13 loss to Texas in the 1973 Cotton Bowl: "We didn't lose to Texas on the field at Dallas, we lost the game when Auburn blocked two punts to beat us 17-16 at Birmingham."

A 13-6 victory over Penn State in the 1975 Sugar Bowl, the first played in the Louisiana Superdome: "I have never been around an Alabama team I have more respect for. We got our heads beat in against Missouri, then won 11 straight games. That shows me something."

It was during that first Sugar Bowl in the Superdome that Bryant made a rare coaching appearance without wearing his famous houndstooth hat.

"My mother taught me not to wear a hat indoors," Bryant said, "and I haven't forgotten."

Such remarks add to bowl-game color, to an Alabama rainbow that grows more beautiful as the years go by.

Al Browning is sports editor of the Tuscaloosa News and author of Bowl Bama Bowl.★

Alabama fans are not likely to soon forget the famous goalline stand, the "gut check," that held Penn State out of the end zone in last season's Sugar Bowl, propelling Bama to the national championship.

Tuscaloosa News Photo



ALABAMA'S GREAT BOWL TRADITION

20 Consecutive Appearances

32 Total Bowl Appearances

COMPOSITE BOWL RECORD:

Won 16, Lost 13, Tied 3

THE SUGAR BOWL— NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA

Record: Won 6, Lost 3

1945—Duke 29, Alabama 26
1948—Texas 20, Alabama 7
1962—Alabama 10, Arkansas 3
1964—Alabama 12, Ole Miss 7
1967—Alabama 34, Nebraska 7
1973—Notre Dame 24, Alabama 23
1975—Alabama 13, Penn State 6
1978—Alabama 35, Ohio State 6
1979—Alabama 14, Penn State 7

THE ROSE BOWL— PASADENA, CALIFORNIA

Record: Won 4, Lost 1, Tied 1

1926—Alabama 20, Washington 19
1927—Alabama 7, Stanford 7
1931—Alabama 24, Washington State 0
1935—Alabama 29, Stanford 13
1938—California 13, Alabama 0
1946—Alabama 34, Southern Cal 14

THE ORANGE BOWL— MIAMI, FLORIDA

Record: Won 4, Lost 3

1943—Alabama 37, Boston College 21
1953—Alabama 61, Syracuse 6
1963—Alabama 17, Oklahoma 0
1965—Texas 21, Alabama 17
1966—Alabama 39, Nebraska 28
1972—Nebraska 38, Alabama 6
1975—Notre Dame 13, Alabama 11

THE COTTON BOWL— DALLAS, TEXAS

Record: Won 1, Lost 3

1942—Alabama 29, Texas A&M 21
1954—Rice 21, Alabama 6
1968—Texas A&M 20, Alabama 16
1973—Texas 17, Alabama 13

THE LIBERTY BOWL— PHILADELPHIA & MEMPHIS

Record: Won 1, Lost 2

1959—Penn State 7, Alabama 0
1969—Colorado 47, Alabama 33
1976—Alabama 36, UCLA 6

THE ASTRO-BLUEBONNET BOWL—HOUSTON, TEXAS

Record: Won 0, Lost 0, Tied 2

1960—Alabama 3, Texas 3
1970—Alabama 24, Oklahoma 24

THE GATOR BOWL— JACKSONVILLE, FLORIDA

Record: Won 0, Lost 1

1968—Missouri 35, Alabama 10

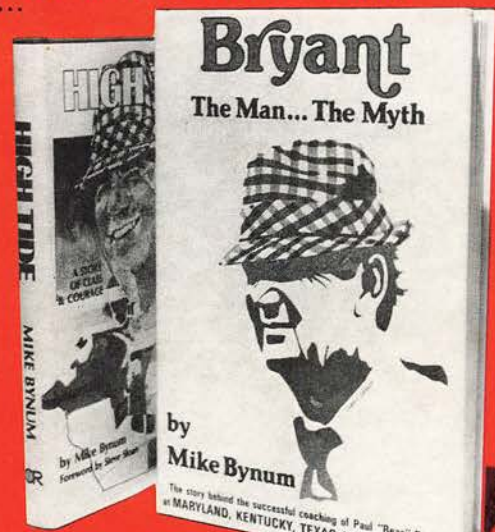
Mike Bynum, author of the popular book, *HIGH TIDE*, which tells the inside story of our top-ranked Crimson Tide team, has written a new book about the team's dynamic coach, Paul "Bear" Bryant.

The "Bear" is a legend around the campus, and, in fact, across the country. His story is told in *BRYANT, THE MAN... THE MYTH*. You'll discover the guiding forces that have made Coach Bryant one of the most successful "winners" in college football history. You'll read candid stories from his coaching years at 'Bama, as well as at Maryland, Kentucky, and Texas A&M. And you'll understand why his players—past and present—respect him so highly.

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THE MYTH is told as only Mike Bynum can tell it. And it's great reading for everyone who has pride in our Crimson Tide.

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A graduate of the University of Alabama in Fine Arts, Daniel Moore focuses mainly on Super-realism—a style of painting that requires dedicated discipline. His work has been exhibited in many competitive art exhibitions and has won numerous awards and honors. Prints of a recent work of his were nationally advertised and sold in all 50 states. An avid Alabama football fan, Mr. Moore has given exceptional effort and months of work to "The Goal Line Stand"—a tribute to his number one team.

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ALABAMA FROSH

THE FUTURE

by Mike Bolton

Lost in the shuffle. That's a popular phrase used by football programs recruiting against Alabama's. A recruiter tells an incoming freshman that he stands a very good chance of playing or even starting at his school, but at Alabama there's a chance he will get lost in the shuffle.

Lost in the shuffle?

It's been proved that every year freshmen step in to play a significant role in Alabama's football fortunes. Some get their start on the junior varsity team and work their way up, as did Steadman Shealy. Some, as Major Ogilvie, go straight to the top and see varsity action.

Below is a list of the high school stars Alabama signed last season and what they have done. Also included is a trio of walkons who have found they too can become part of the Alabama tradition.

AL BLUE, defensive back, 6-2, 175, Maitland, Florida—Blue missed the first six weeks of Alabama practice with a severe collarbone bruise, but quickly made up for lost action when he became well.

He was moved up to the varsity squad after making a couple of interceptions in junior varsity games and his first series will likely be remembered for some time by those who witnessed it. Against Miami he nearly tore the opposing fullback's head off on draw play and came back with an interception two plays later. That interception broke the Alabama record for team interceptions in a season.

LARRY BROWN, tight end, 6-3, 227, Pembroke Pines, Florida—A young man who wants to play somewhere, Brown has made almost all of the varsity trips and has seen action at tight end. He has impressed the coaches with his reckless style of play on kickoff return teams and his toughness on extra point and field goal teams.

Freshman quarterback Mike Landrum saw both varsity and junior varsity duty before suffering a slight injury.



REGGIE BROWN, running back, 5-11, 190, Brewton—Brown suffered a deep thigh bruise early in the season and it has hampered his playing time. He has seen action in junior varsity games.

JEREMIAH CASTILLE, defensive back, 5-11, 169, Phenix City—Defensive secondary coach Bill Oliver calls Castille the most improved freshman on the squad. He impressed the coaches in preseason workouts and has played in every varsity game except LSU. Castille got his first interception against Miami a few weeks back.

KENNETH COLEY, quarterback-punt returner, 5-11, 183, Birmingham—This talented freshman was ranked in the top five nationally in punt returns before a knee injury against Tennessee ended his season. Coley had surgery the next morning after the injury and is progressing nicely. He is expected back next season.

DOUG COLLINS, tackle, 6-4, 245, Andalusia—Considered by most as the top prep prospect in the state for 1978, Collins is making a move now toward college stardom. Knee injuries slowed him down early, but he has bounced back to see action in several varsity contests of late. He has recorded several tackles with the varsity.

EARL COLLINS, running back, 6-1, 190, Mobile—Collins led all Alabama junior varsity rushers for the two games he played, but he was moved up to see varsity action after the two standout performances. He has seen limited duty with the varsity. Assistant coach Jack Rutledge says Collins is a player to watch in the future.

RANDY EDWARDS, lineman, 6-4, 248, Marietta, Georgia—Doctors giving Edwards a physical for the Georgia high school all-star game detected a kidney ailment and he was told he must sit out of football for at least a year. Edwards did not enroll in Alabama to save a year on eligibility and his future in football is uncertain.

JOHN ELIAS, noseguard, 6-3, 217, Columbus, Georgia—Elias has been a starter in every junior varsity game and put on a tremendous show for the homefolks as Alabama downed Ft. Benning in Columbus.

JEFF FAGAN, running back, 6-1, 195, Hollywood, Florida—Fagan is a running back who has gone straight to the top. He has seen action in numerous varsity contests and scored a touchdown. Coaches say he has made a tremendous improvement in his blocking and is a likely star of the future.

ROOSEVELT HILL, linebacker, 6-0, 190, Newnan, Georgia—Hill has been one of the main keys in Alabama's junior vari-



Kenny Simon was a track sensation as a prep last year and he's putting that speed to work for Alabama in the backfield and as a top member of Bama specialty teams.

—Spectrum Southeast Photo

ty season. The linebacker has an interception to his credit and several touchdown-saving tackles.

DANNY HOLCOMBE, offensive guard, 6-2, 237, Marietta, Georgia—Holcombe has seen action with the Alabama junior varsity team at center this season and has seen limited varsity play at guard. Coaches say he is a player to watch in the future.

CLARK JOHNSON, defensive end, 6-4, 220, Opp—Johnson was involved in a motorcycle accident after signing with Alabama and an injured knee required surgery. He has seen no action with the football squad this season.

MICHEAL LANDRUM, quarterback, 6-1, 178, Nanafali—Landrum became Alabama's first black quarterback as he saw action against Vanderbilt in Alabama's 66-3 win. Landrum drove the team down the field in the fourth quarter and capped the drive with a four-yard touchdown run.

Landrum saw junior varsity later against Ole Miss, but injured a shoulder in practice and missed much of the last half of the season.

MIKE McQUEEN, guard, 6-5, 227, Enterprise—McQueen has started every junior varsity contest and has seen action on both the right and left sides of the line. Junior varsity coach Rutledge calls McQueen a steady player and says he should develop into a fine football player.

STEVE MOTT, center, 6-3, 250, Gretna, Louisiana—Who would believe an inexperienced freshman seeing a lot of duty behind All-America candidate Dwight Stephenson? Mott has been second-team center behind Stephenson much of the year and has seen plenty of action in the skill spot. He has graded well in all games and has a good shot at a starting berth next season.

RY OGILVIE, wide receiver, 6-2, 187, Birmingham—The brother of Major Ogilvie, Rye stepped in for an injured Keith Pugh in mid-season and along with Keith Marks did a fine job. He had a varsity reception for six yards and has several junior varsity receptions to his credit.

JERRY OLIVER, fullback, 6-1, 222, Perdido—Oliver was an academic casualty and will most likely never see college football action. He signed with Alabama,

but never graduated from high school.

MERV ROMINE, quarterback, 6-1, 185, Phil Campbell—Merv has been one of several players to direct the junior varsity team from the quarterback spot. He may also have a future as a defensive back.

ROBERT RUSSELL, linebacker, 6-3, 213, Demopolis—Russell has been a starter for every junior varsity game this season and had 14 tackles against Marion Institute.

DEXTER RUTHERFORD, guard, 6-5, 240, Hatton—Rutherford has started every junior varsity game this season at offensive guard and has opened some big holes for Alabama's talented running backs.

MASON SCHWARZ, linebacker, 6-0, 225, Savannah, Georgia—Schwarz has dressed for several varsity contests, but has seen action mainly with the junior varsity. He led the junior varsity in interceptions.

KEN SIMON, running back, 6-1, 185, Montgomery—A speedster, Simon bypassed the junior varsity league to go straight into varsity action. He has seen action in several varsity contests and has 38 yards rushing. He's a top man on kickoff coverage.

PAUL TRODD, field goal specialist, 5-11, 150, Eufaula—Trodd learned the art of kicking in England where he was born and as of late has been teaching it to Alabama junior varsity opponents. He leads all junior varsity scorers with his 19 points and is 5-5 in the field goal department with his longest being 38 yards. He dressed out for the Miami varsity game.

DANNY WESTFALL, Fullback, 6-0, 185, Dalton, Georgia—Another walkon showing he can make waves in a big ocean, Westfall has 97 yards rushing with the junior varsity team after starting every game.

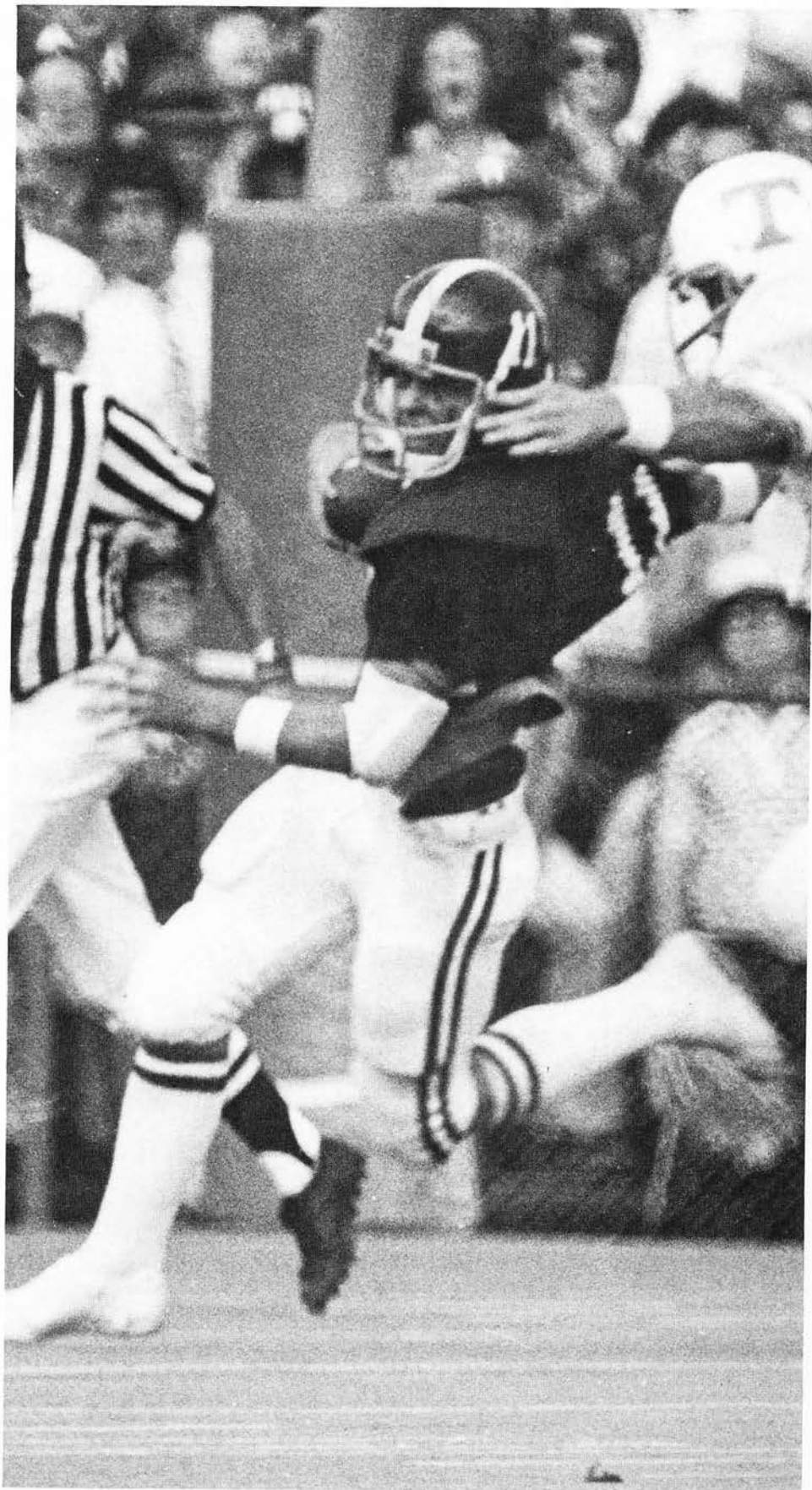
DARRYL WHITE, quarterback, 5-9, 174, Tuscaloosa—The son of Alabama backfield coach Shorty White this walkon stepped in the second junior varsity contest to spark the Tide to victory after a sloppy beginning. He rushed for 65 yards to become that game's leading rusher. He has seen varsity duty at split end and on punt returns.

ROOSEVELT WILDER, halfback, 5-11, 195, Macon, Georgia—Wilder scooped up a fumble and raced for 65 yards for the game's only score as Alabama downed the Ole Miss junior varsity squad 7-0 in the

season opener. He has started every junior varsity game and has dressed out for several varsity contests.

RUSS WOOD, linebacker 6-3, 205, Elba—Wood has seen double duty as a

linebacker for the varsity and junior varsity teams this season. He has been a standout with the junior varsity team and has several tackles to his credit in varsity play. ★



Ken Coley ranked among the nation's leaders in punt returns and also saw duty in the Tide secondary before an injury took him out of action.

—Spectrum Southeast Photo

The First Perfect Season

by Mike Bolton



The dynasty of Northern and Eastern football had begun to crack by 1915 and by 1920 it had begun falling.

The new boy on the block was Southern football. The new king took his position when Alabama downed Washington 20-19 in a game that stunned the sporting world.

What were the events leading up to the new reign?

Alabama had gotten the taste of victory as it produced a 6-3-1 record in 1922, came back with a 7-2-1 record in 1923 and came close to a perfect season in 1924 with an 8-1 record.

Spring training of 1925 began with Alabama boasting enough backs to stock three great football teams. "Alabama will have the greatest collection of smart running backs in the South," Zipp Newman told Birmingham News readers.

"Alabama will have the class of Southern backfields with Johnny Mack Brown, brilliant broken-field runner; "Pooley" Hubert, one of the best all-around backs in America; Grant Gillis, a cool and steady punter; Red Barnes, punter and open field runner; and Red Pepper, a 200-pound fullback.

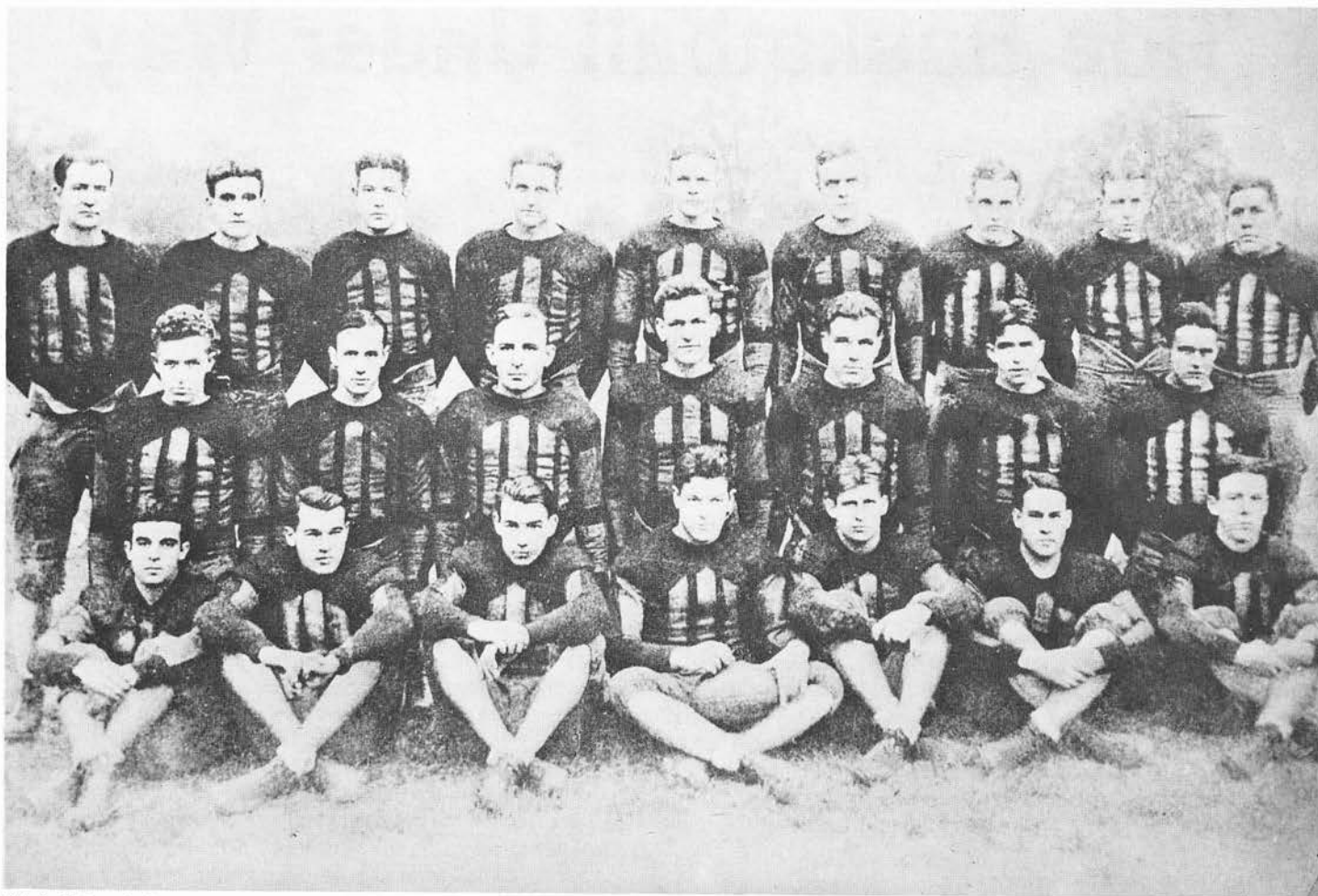
"Here is a collection of backs that do everything they are supposed to do and they do it well. Wade could shut his eyes and pick a good combination of backs from this collection."

Talk like that makes a coach shudder, but Newman was right. It was hard to see how Wade could go wrong with that collection.

And if that fine array of backs weren't enough, there were others that were anything but slouches.

Bill Buckler, a guard, had been All-Southern the year before. Guard Bruce Jones was known for his leadership and had been elected team captain. Tackle Pete Camp was one of coach Wallace Wade's favorites and he was supposed to

Johnny Mack Brown played an important role in Alabama's first undefeated football season, then spent a career playing roles in Hollywood.



This is Alabama's first undefeated football team, the 1925 squad of coach Wallace Wade that went 9-0 in regular season, then downed Washington 20-19 in the 1926 Rose Bowl, which was also Bama's first bowl game.

have his best year. End Ben Hudson had done most of the damage in the 1924 season finale as Alabama downed Georgia 33-0.

When spring training closed up shop, Wade knew he was in the midst of something very special. He could hardly wait for the 1925 season to roll around.

Union was the Tide's first victim and fell by a lopsided score of 53-0. Birmingham-Southern managed to get on the scoreboard the next week, but that was little comfort as Alabama won 50-7.

The newspapers played up LSU as Alabama's toughest game of the season, but Alabama embarrassed the visitors 42-0. Wu Winslett had begun to come on as a passer and his 23-yarder set up the first Alabama touchdown. Add another name to 'Bama's list of fine backs.

Winslett's arm led Alabama to a 27-0 rout of old rival Sewanee the next week. Winslett hit Barnes with a 28-yard pass to set up the first touchdown, then Barnes ran 29 yards to set up the second. Hubert hit Winslett with a 35-yard bomb to set up the final touchdown. Alabama could run and throw.

Georgia Tech, as Alabama, was

undefeated when they met in the rain in Atlanta in midseason. Alabama won 7-0 on a magnificent punt return by Brown that saw the Yellow Jackets cut down one-by-one just like it was drawn up on the blackboard. A photo showed 11 Tech players—and a referee—lying on the ground.

Alabama got a big scare the next week as supposed patsy Mississippi A&M fell only 6-0. Another Hubert to Winslett pass did the trick there.

Johnny Mack Brown had one of his finest moments the next week as he ran 79 yards for a touchdown and Barnes quickly followed with a 75-yard dash as Alabama whipped Kentucky 31-0.

Papers were asking if anybody could possibly score on Alabama again the next week as the Tide won 34-0 over Florida and they got the answer the next week as Georgia fell 27-0 to end the regular season. Alabama had outscored opponents 277-7 in the regular season.

Alabama was voted the Southern Conference champion despite Tulane's perfect mark and the Rose Bowl (the only bowl then) invited Alabama to play Washington.

Twenty-two players made the 2,800-mile train trip to Pasadena and wheeled into the big city on Christmas Eve. There was practice Christmas Day and the rest of the time was devoted for mental preparation.

Washington jumped ahead 12-0 in the first half and it lasted as the teams went into the dressing rooms. Alabama was anything but dead, however. It scored on its first possession of the second half and again on the next possession. Hubert caught the Huskies napping for the second touchdown as he hit Brown with a 63-yard pass. Washington fumbled after the kickoff and Alabama got into the end zone again minutes later as Hubert this time hit Brown with a 33-yard TD pass. Alabama had scored all of its points in seven minutes and it took a late 30-yard touchdown pass from Washington to make the game appear very close.

When the sun set on Pasadena, California it marked the finest hour in Southern football—and Alabama's first undefeated season.★

Tide Basketball Under Way

It's odd how perspective changes. Last March probably more people called the radio station in Birmingham that ordinarily broadcasts Alabama basketball games complaining because the consolation game of the NIT, Bama against Ohio State, was not on the air, than showed up when 1979-80 Crimson Tide basketball got under way Friday night.

An estimated (generously) 4,000 were on hand as coach C. M. Newton's 12th edition of one of the nation's most respected programs got under way.

Of course, it was the night before the Alabama-Auburn football game and undoubtedly there were other things to do. And Maine certainly didn't strike the same fancy that previous Birmingham games, such as those against Michigan and Missouri, have in the past. And for the first time in several years the Tide doesn't have a real "name" player, a Leon Douglas or T. R. Dunn or Reggie King.

But this appears to be an interesting basketball team, one that will entertain. It may not win 22 games, as six of the past

seven Bama clubs have. But there are the makings of a solid basketball team.

Bama handled Maine, as expected, without much difficulty, then faced stiffer opposition this week in LaSalle, Northeastern and, this Saturday in Madison, Wisconsin University.

Coach Newton admits that he doesn't yet know what to expect of this team. "But I will by the time we play Vanderbilt," he adds. Bama gets into Southeastern Conference play, as all other SEC schools, with two December conference games. The first comes the Saturday after final semester examinations, December 15 against Vandy in Tuscaloosa. The Commodores are expected to be without their star forward, Charles Davis, who is injured and listed as out for at least December. The Tide follows that Vandy game with a crucial road contest at Tennessee December 19.

Alabama's opener was typical in some ways, not in others. The most amazing statistic of the game was Bama committing just nine turnovers, despite the fact

that 11 men—including four freshmen—saw plenty of playing time. On the other hand, Maine did not attempt any pressure defense. It was also encouraging that Bama held Maine to under 60 points, taking a 76-59 decision. But no one would consider Maine the physical talent of SEC teams that will challenge Bama later.

Alabama shot only fair, 43.2 percent from the field and 57.1 percent from the free throw line, but outrebounded Maine 46-38 and got off 74 field goal attempts to only 45 for the visitors, who committed 21 turnovers.

Soph forward Eddie Phillips, as might be expected, led all rebounders with 12, but he made only three of 12 field goals. Last year he set a new Bama record for field goal accuracy.

Brightest spots for Bama were guard Robert Scott and forward Ken Johnson. Scott played "really good totally," said coach Newton. The senior, who had terrific SEC and NIT tournament games last year, was seven of 10 from the field, four of four from the free throw line and threw in four rebounds, two assists and three steals.

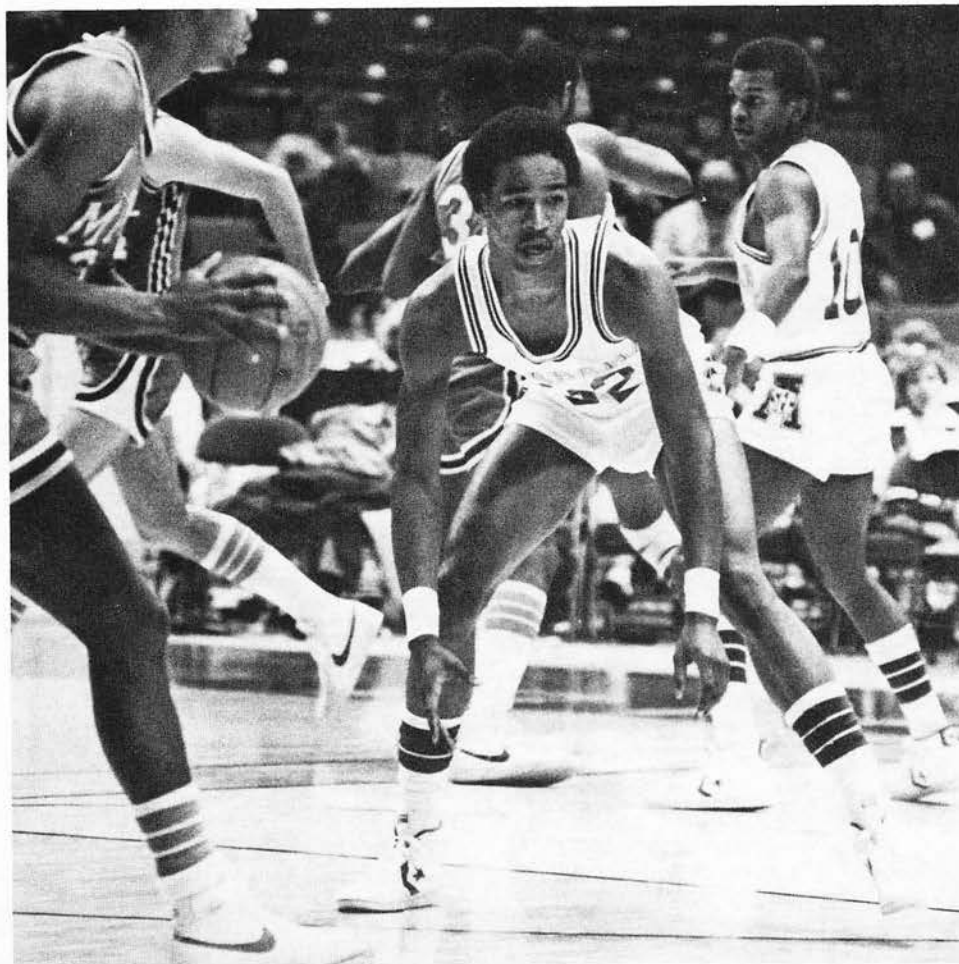
Johnson hit eight of 13 field goals, had four rebounds and picked up only two fouls in 29 minutes of play. "I think Ken has improved defensively," said coach Newton. "I think he has a better understanding of what we're trying to do and he's matured to the point that he won't get those silly fouls that have always hurt him."

The Tide will continue to play all 11 scholarshiped players through this week's games with a determination being made on a starting squad and substitution pattern prior to the Vanderbilt contest.

Alabama's defense had a slightly different twist with some doubling of the basketball by the guards, rather than the strict man-to-man play of past Newton teams. Bama also played some zone, as last year.

"I know we're playing hard and together," said coach Newton. "I'm anxious to find out how good we are."

—Kirk McNair



Returning starters Ken Johnson (32) and Robert Scott (10) got Alabama basketball off to a good start this year.

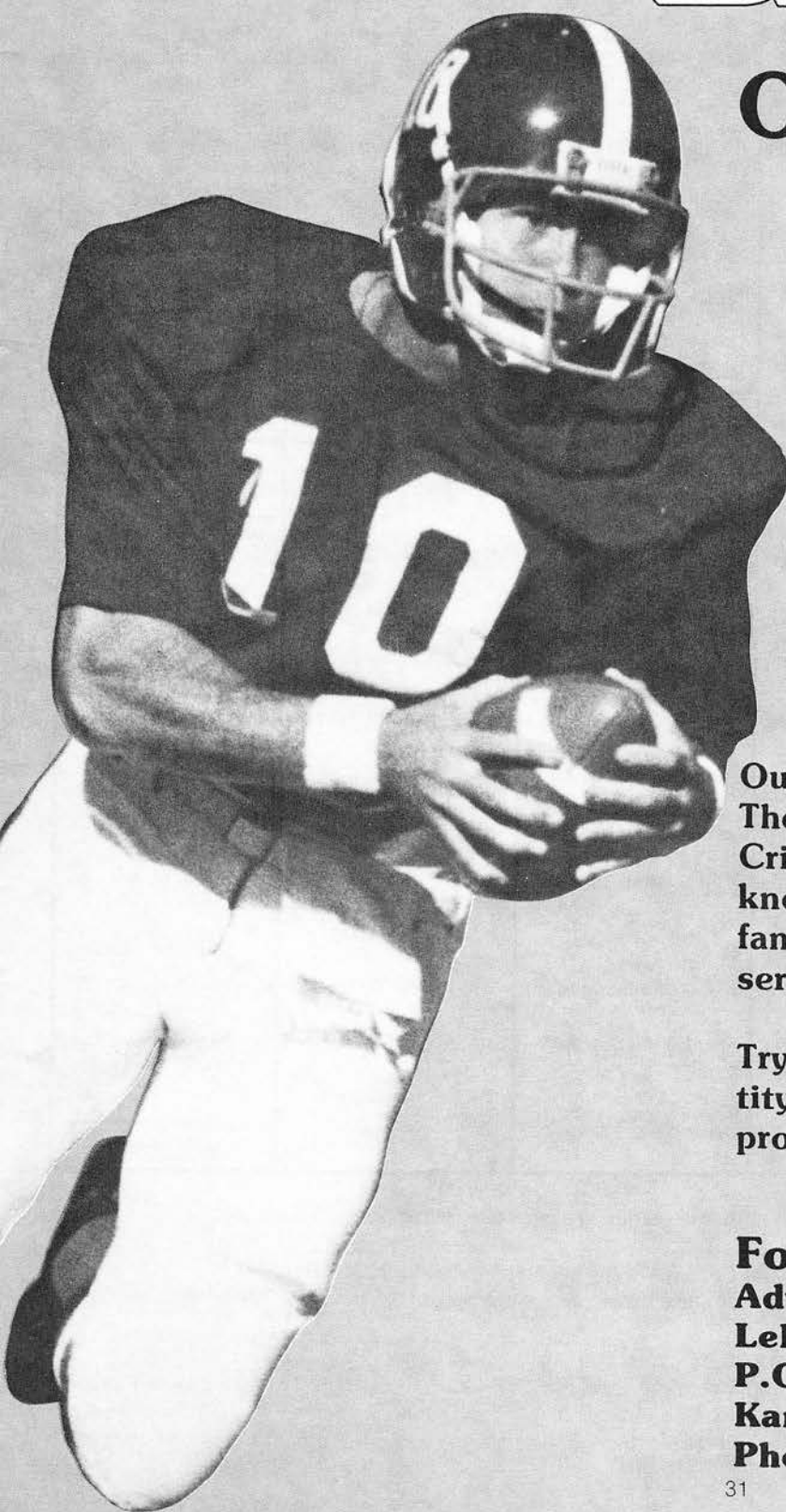
Spectrum-Southeast Photo

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AROUND THE LEAGUE

DATE	ALABAMA	AUBURN	FLORIDA	GEORGIA	KENTUCKY
Sept. 8	30 at Georgia Tech 6				
Sept. 15		26 KANSAS STATE 18	10 at Houston 14	21 WAKE FOREST 22	14 MIAMI (OH.) 15
Sept. 22	45 BAYLOR (B)* 0	31 S. MISS 9	7 GEORGIA TECH 7	7 at Clemson 12	10 at Indiana 18
Sept. 29	66 at Vanderbilt 3	17 at Tennessee 35	10 at Miss. State 24	20 S. CAROLINA 27	14 MARYLAND 7
Oct. 6	38 WICHITA STATE (T) 0	44 N.C. STATE 31	3 at LSU 20	24 at Ole Miss 21	6 at W. Virginia 10
Oct. 13	40 at Florida 0	52 VANDERBILT 35	0 ALABAMA 40	21 LSU 14	14 OLE MISS 3
Oct. 20	27 TENNESSEE (B) 17	38 at Georgia Tech 14		31 at Vanderbilt 10	19 at LSU 23
Oct. 27	31 VIRGINIA TECH (T) 7	38 at Wake Forest 42	10 TULSA 20	20 KENTUCKY 6	6 at Georgia 20
Nov. 3	24 MISSISSIPPI ST. (T) 7	19 FLORIDA 13	13 at Auburn 19	0 VIRGINIA 31	20 BOWLING GR 14
Nov. 10	3 at LSU 0	14 MISSISSIPPI ST 3	10 GEORGIA (J)** 33	33 at Florida (J)** 10	29 at Vanderbilt 10
Nov. 17	30 MIAMI (T) 0	33 at Georgia 13	3 KENTUCKY 31	13 AUBURN 33	31 at Florida 3
Nov. 24			16 FLA. STATE 27	16 at Georgia Tech 3	17 TENNESSEE 20
Dec. 1	25 AUBURN (B) 18	18 ALABAMA (B) 25	24 at Miami 30		
DATE	LSU	OLE MISS	MISS. STATE	TENNESSEE	VANDERBILT
Sept. 8			13 MEMPHIS ST. (J)# 14		
Sept. 15	44 at Colorado 0	38 at Memphis St. 34		28 at Boston College 16	13 at Indiana 44
Sept. 22	47 RICE 3	7 MISSOURI (J)c 33	14 at Maryland 35	51 UTAH 18	14 CITADEL 27
Sept. 29	12 SOUTHERN CAL 17	8 S. MISS. (J) 38	24 FLORIDA (J) 10	35 AUBURN 17	3 ALABAMA 66
Oct. 6	20 FLORIDA 3	21 GEORGIA (O) 24	28 TENNESSEE (M) 9	9 at Miss. St. (M) 28	14 at Tulane 42
Oct. 13	14 at Georgia 21	3 at Kentucky 14	6 at Florida St. 17	31 GEORGIA TECH 0	35 at Auburn 52
Oct. 20	23 KENTUCKY 19	14 at S. Carolina 21	48 MARSHALL (S) 0	17 at Alabama (B) 27	10 GEORGIA 31
Oct. 27	19 FLORIDA STATE 24	63 VANDERBILT (O) 28	7 S. MISS. (S) 21		28 at Ole Miss (O) 63
Nov. 3	28 at Ole Miss 24	24 LSU (J) 28	7 at Alabama (T) 24	7 RUTGERS 13	13 MEMPHIS ST. 3
Nov. 10	0 ALABAMA 3	15 at Tulane 49	3 at Auburn 14	40 NOTRE DAME 18	10 KENTUCKY 29
Nov. 17	21 MISSISSIPPI ST. 3	44 TENNESSEE (J) 20	3 at LSU 21	20 at Ole Miss (J) 44	29 at Air Force 30
Nov. 24	13 at Tulane 24	14 at Miss. St. (J) 9	9 OLE MISS (J) 14	20 at Kentucky 17	
Dec. 1				31 VANDERBILT 10	10 at Tennessee 31

FINAL 1979 STANDINGS Conference Overall

Alabama	6-0-0	11-0-0
Georgia	5-1-0	6-5-0
Auburn	4-2-0	8-3-0
LSU	4-2-0	6-5-0
Kentucky	3-3-0	4-7-0
Ole Miss	3-3-0	4-7-0
Tennessee	3-3-0	7-4-0
Mississippi State	2-4-0	3-8-0
Florida	0-6-0	0-10-1
Vanderbilt	0-6-0	1-10-0

*Alabama home games are played at Birmingham or Tuscaloosa

**At Jacksonville

cOle Miss home games are played at Jackson or Oxford

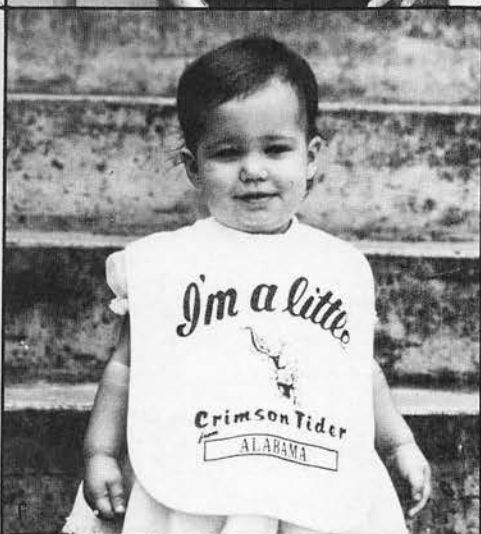
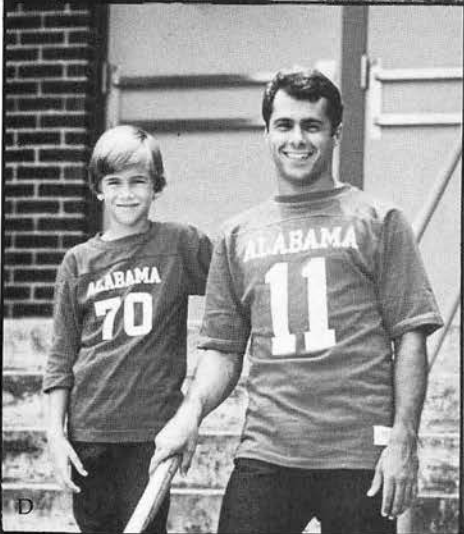
#Mississippi State home games are played at Jackson, Starkville or Memphis

THE RACE

It went down to the wire, but when it was over the SEC race finished as expected with Alabama winning its 17th title, eighth in the last nine years. Georgia, predicted second, finished there despite a poor overall 6-5 record.



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Monthly

This is the final weekly publication of 'BAMA. Monthly publication begins with another issue this month and continues through August.

The December issue will include an update on Alabama's football recruiting (SEC letters-of-intent can be signed beginning Saturday) and a scouting report on the Tide's Sugar Bowl opponent, Arkansas.

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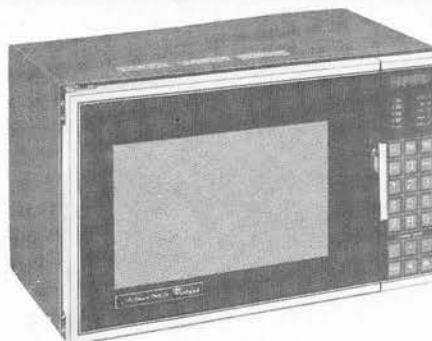
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